

RECOVERY FUNDS AT WORK IN OHIO'S SIXTH DISTRICT

Wilson Announces TV Converter Box Coupon Waiting List Cleared

WASHINGTON, DC – Congressman Charlie Wilson (OH-6) is pleased to announce that the U.S. Department of Commerce and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) have cleared the waiting list for the TV Converter Box Coupon Program due to funds authorized by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

According to the U.S. Department of Commerce, the NTIA received \$650 million in recovery funds to eliminate the digital converter box coupon waiting list, allowing consumers to apply for coupons and replacement coupons immediately. The NTIA will be processing all coupon requests as they come in with a maximum 10-day turnaround time.

The government Coupon Program was designed to help households with analog televisions--not connected to cable, satellite or other pay TV service--to buy a converter box so their TV works when full-power TV broadcasters transition from analog to 100 percent digital broadcasts. The transition will free up the airwaves for better communications among emergency first responders, as well as offer consumers a clearer picture and more programming choices. The nationwide deadline for analog-to-digital conversion is June 12, 2009.

"I encourage all households in the Sixth District that still need to make the switch to digital to get their converter box today," Wilson said. "Television is a key source of information for many households, especially in a weather emergency."

Households may apply for coupons online at www.DTV2009.gov, by phone at 1-888-DTV-2009 (1-888-388-2009), via fax at 1-877-DTV-4ME2 (1-877-388-4632) or by mail to P.O. Box 2000, Portland, OR 97208-2000. Deaf or hard of hearing callers may dial 1-877-530-2634 (English TTY) or 1-866-495-1161 (Spanish TTY). Nursing home residents may apply with the paper application available downloadable at www.DTV2009.gov. For more information about the Coupon Program, please visit www.DTV2009.gov and for questions about the DTV transition, go to www.dtv.gov or call 1-888-CALL-FCC. For up to date information on digital transition support services (i.e. walk-in centers, installation assistance), please also visit <https://dtvsupport.fcc.gov/dtvtools/>.

Update on Analog Shut-Off Dates for Television Stations that cover the 6th Congressional District:

(source: Ohio Association of Broadcasters)

Market	Station	Shut Off Date
Youngstown	WFMJ (NBC)	6/12/09
	WKBN (CBS)	6/12/09
	WYTV (ABC)	6/12/09
Wheeling, Steubenville	WTOV (NBC)	4/16/09
	WTRF (CBS)	Already shut off
Parkersburg	WTAP (NBC/Fox)	Already shut off
Columbus, Athens	WOUB (PBS)	6/12/09
	WOUC (PBS)	6/12/09
	WWHO (CW)	Already shut off
	WTTE (Fox)	Already shut off
	WBNS (CBS)	6/12/09
	WCHM (NBC)	6/12/09
	WOSU (PBS)	Already shut off
	WSYX (ABC)	6/12/09
	WSFJ (TBN)	4/16/09
Charleston, Huntington	WKAS (PBS)	4/16/09
	WTSF (Ind.)	4/30/09
	WCHS (ABC)	6/12/09
	WVAH (Fox)	6/12/09
	WLPX (ION)	4/16/09
	WOWK (CBS)	Already shut off
	WSAZ (NBC)	Already shut off
	WPBY (PBS)	6/12/09
	WKPI (PBS)	4/16/09
	WPBO (PBS)	Already shut off
	WQCW (CW)	6/12/09